

Message Text

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43

ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 SSO-00 /006 W

----- 088862

O 201210Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5758

UNCLAS LIBREVILLE 1175

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC (GILBERT, SYDNEY)

SUBJ: W/W SYDNEY GILBERT

REF: STATE 206838

1. EMBASSY CONTACTED SEPTEMBER 18 BY CAPTAIN OF PEFOOTE, AMERICAN FLAG VESSEL OWNED BY ARTHUR LEVY BOAT INC. OF MORGAN CITY, LA. CAPTAIN STATED SEAMAN GILBERT HAD SUFFERED ACCIDENT ABOARD SHIP THAT HAD FORCED AMPUTATION OF LEFT LEG. IN ADDITION, RIGHT LEG BROKEN IN TWO OR THREE PLACES. HE ALSO SUFFERED TWO-INCH NON-DANGEROUS CUT ABOVE EYE AND ASSORTED BUMPS AND BRUISES. CAPTAIN STATED GILBERT CURRENTLY HOSPITALIZED IN PORT GENTIL, WAS CHEERFUL AND IN GOOD CONDITION UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, AND THAT ARTHUR LEVY HAD TOLD CAPTAIN TO CONTACT EMBASSY FOR ASSISTANCE IN EVACUATING GILBERT.

2. EMBASSY CONTACTED SOCOPAO SHIPPING AGENCY IN PORT GENTIL WHICH WAS HANDLING ARRANGEMENTS. SOCOPAO HAS TAKEN CARE OF EVERYTHING. GILBERT WILL BE TRAVELLING COMMERCIALY ON STRETCHER WITH MEDICAL ATTENDANT AT ARTHUR LEVY'S EXPENSE. HOWEVER, HE CANNOT TRAVEL UNTIL HE HAS DOCTOR' PERMISSION AND MEDICAL CERTIFICATE TO TRAVEL. THIS EXPECTED TO BE GIVEN SEPTEMBER 22 OR 23, AND GILBERT WILL LEAVE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THEREAFTER. SOCOPAO HAS BEEN ADVISED TO CONTACT EMBASSY AT ANY TIME IF THERE ARE ANY PROBLEMS OR IF WE COULD BE OF HELP IN ANY WAY.

3. EMBASSY WILL ADVISE OF ANY FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.

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COUNTRYMAN

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NNN

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